

State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster

Budget Communications Memo

Libraries



Background

A robust library system and universal access to information is important for our state. State Superintendent Burmaster's budget makes the right investments in our libraries and will go a long way toward ensuring their continued quality.

Budget Request

	FY 08	FY 09
Badgerlink	\$489,100	\$538,400
Provide funding to maintain the current level of services through BadgerLink based on five-year contract prices. This represents a 1.5 percent increase in FY08 and 2.4 percent in FY09 (over FY08). The department also requests \$442,800 SEG annually in both FY08 and FY09 for the addition of one or more encyclopedias in BadgerLink for users of all ages and/or materials to assist pupils in completing classroom assignments.		
Public Library System Aid	\$9,639,400	\$10,394,200
Current law requires the department to include a 13 percent index level of funding for public library systems in its biennial budget request. In FY06, the index of state aid to local and county aid for public library service is estimated to have fallen to 8.1 percent.		
Library Delivery Services	\$382,000	\$401,000
Provide funding to cover the increasing delivery costs incurred by public library systems.		
Library Service Contracts	\$257,300	\$220,300
Fully fund library service contracts and to purchase and maintain a Digital Talking Books server. These contracts assure that students and other individuals have equal access to informational materials required to do coursework, meet curriculum needs, or pursue personal interests regardless of where they live, their special needs or circumstances.		
School Library Aids Re-estimate	\$6,000,000	\$11,000,000
Reflects a re-estimate of projected school library aids from the Common School Fund. Aid to school libraries is distributed to school districts for the purchase of instructional media center materials.		

Investing in our Future